SENATE BILL 4128

By Tate

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 51, relative to adult-oriented establishments.

WHEREAS, municipalities have spent considerable resources on litigating the restrictions imposed on the adult-oriented industry; and

WHEREAS, zoning requirements have contributed to blight by concentrating adultoriented establishments within certain segments of municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the regulation of adult-oriented establishments has not decreased the number of such establishments to a significant degree; and

WHEREAS, resources allocated to enforcing restrictions on adult-oriented establishments should be spent wisely; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. In order to ensure the standards that apply to adult-oriented establishments protect the general public and the persons employed by such establishments, and serve to diminish deleterious effects associated with such businesses, there is hereby created a study committee to review the laws pertaining to such establishments and the level of compliance with such laws. The committee shall be known as the Committee to Study the Administration of the Adult-Oriented Establishment laws, herein referred to as "the committee."

SECTION 2. The committee is charged to study adult-oriented laws in the state of Tennessee and to make recommendations designed to ensure the regulation of this industry is efficient and serves the public interest. To that end, the committee shall, among other things, review non-partisan, academic and government studies and measures to regulate adult-oriented establishments.

SECTION 3. The committee is charged to study, receive testimony, deliberate upon and make recommendations for public policy designed to provide fairness, efficiency and effectiveness in the standards established for the regulation of adult-oriented establishments

SECTION 4. The committee shall consist of eight (8) members, as follows: two (2) members of the senate, including at least one (1) member of the senate judiciary committee, appointed by the speaker of the senate; two (2) members of the house of representatives, including at least one (1) member of the house judiciary committee, appointed by the speaker of the house; two (2) persons appointed by the governor; a representative appointed by the attorney general; and a representative appointed by the adult-oriented industry.

SECTION 5. The committee shall be convened by the legislative member with the most years of continuous service in the general assembly and, at its organizational meeting, shall elect from among its legislative membership, a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee may deem necessary.

SECTION 6. Members of the committee shall serve without compensation. All legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the general assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the general assembly.

SECTION 7. The committee shall report its findings and recommendations to the governor and the general assembly within two (2) years of the effective date of this act, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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